

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 16 and 19-20 are pending in this application. Claims 17 and 18 were previously withdrawn, and have now been cancelled. None of the claims have been allowed.

At the bottom of page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner has objected to claims 1 and 20. The Examiner states:

In claim 1, the following groups are recited in the claim:

(d) -C(O)-heteroaryl-O-, (c)-hetetoaryl,  
(c) -C(O)-heteroaryl-C(O)-,

They are belonged to the invention of Group IB; therefore, those limitations should be removed from the elected Group IA. Appropriate correction is required.

In claim 20, the following aspects of the claim are recited:

The compounds are enclosed around boxes and there are no commas among them and also there is no conjunction word "and" before the last chemical name. This type of expression is improper. Appropriate correction is required.

In response, applicants have amended claims 1 and 20 as indicated.

At the middle of page 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejects claims 1-16 and 19-20 for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicants regard as their invention. The Examiner states:

In claim 1, the phrase "carbon a the end of X is attached to the carbon adjacent to the phenyl" is recited. This expression is vague and indefinite because the claim or the specification does not elaborate what is meant by "carbon a". Appropriate correction is required.

In response applicants have amended the claim 1. Support for the amendment is found, for example, at page 6, line 13 and in the Examples.

Having addressed the outstanding issues, Applicants respectfully request early examination and allowance of the claims. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number provided below if such would advance the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

---

By /Curtis C. Panzer Reg. No. 33,752/  
Curtis C. Panzer  
Reg. No. 33,752  
Attorney for Applicants

MERCK & CO., Inc.  
P.O. Box 2000  
Rahway, New Jersey 07065-0907  
(732) 594-3199

Date: October 5, 2009